

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 HA-05
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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7512
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1978

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PLO, LE, MOPS, HU
SUBJ: VIEWS OF HUNGARIAN FIRST SECRETARY ON SOUTH LEBANON

1. EMBOFF ON APRIL 7 CALLED ON HUNGARIAN FIRST SECRETARY
LASZLO VACZI, WHO FOLLOWS PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS FOR HIS EMBASSY.
CLAIMING RELIABLE INFORMATION, VACZI SAID THE FOLLOWING:

2. AS A RESULT OF THE APRIL 6 FIRING ON OCCUPANTS OF AN
ISRAELI VEHICLE NEAR RAS AL AIN, THE PALESTINIANS HAD TAKEN
ONLY ONE ISRAELI PRISONER, BUT HE HAD SUBSEQUENTLY DIED FROM
HIS WOUNDS. THREE ISRAELIS HAD BEEN KILLED. THE PALESTINIANS
WOULD EXCHANGE THE DEAD BODIES FOR PALESTINIAN PRISONERS
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HELD BY ISRAELIS.

3. THE PALESTINIANS WOULD FIGHT UNIFIL IF IT TRIED TO
OCCUPY PALESTINIAN RATHER THAN ISRAELI POSITIONS, AND IF
THE ISRAELIS DID NOT WITHDRAW. SIMILARLY, THE PALESTINIANS
WOULD ALLOW THE LEBANESE ARMY TO PASS SOUTH THROUGH THEIR
LINES PROVIDED IT OCCUPIED ISRAELI AND NOT PALESTINIAN

POSITIONS. (VACZI SAID HE PERSONALLY BELIEVED THE "ONLY SOLUTION" WAS FOR THE LEBANESE ARMY TO DEPLOY SOUTH.)

4. THE PALESTINIANS COULD NOT GIVE UP QASIMIYAH BRIDGE BECAUSE IT CONTROLLED A VITAL MILITARY SUPPLY LINE. IF THE ISRAELIS WITHDREW, HOWEVER, THE PALESTINIANS WOULD ALLOW UNIFIL OR THE LEBANESE ARMY TO TAKE OVER QASIMIYAH BRIDGE AND OTHER PALESTINIAN POSITIONS.

5. VACZI ALSO CLAIMED THAT THE PALESTINIANS HAD SUFFERED "EXACTLY 159 KILLED" DURING THE ISRAELI INVASION. (SAMIR SABBAGH OF AL MURABITUN HAS ADMITTED TO 300 PALESTINIANS AND LEBANESE LEFTISTS KILLED.) PARKER

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